

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 01233 121408Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
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R 121403Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4143
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 01233

FOR AMBASSADOR EAGLEBURGER FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR EG YO
SUBJECT: GAMAL EL-DIN MANSUR, NEW EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR
- TO YUGOSLAVIA

1. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA, GAMAL MANSUR, WHO RETURNED TO CAIRO FOLLOWING SADAT'S DECISION OF DECEMBER 5, 1977 TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH SYRIA, TOLD ME THE OTHER EVENING THAT HE HAS BEEN NAMED AMBASSADOR TO BELGRADE AND AGREEMENT ALREADY RECEIVED. HE WILL BE DEPARTING IN NEAR FUTURE. MANSUR SPENT ONLY ONE YEAR IN DAMASCUS. HE IS ONE OF EGYPT'S MOST RESPECTED AND BEST QUALIFIED DIPLOMATS. WE HAVE, HOWEVER, HAD NO CONTACT WITH HIM SINCE HE TOOK UP POST IN DAMASCUS AND LEAVE IT TO DAMASCUS TO COMMENT ON HIS PERFORMANCE THERE.

2. BEFORE HIS LAST ASSIGNMENT, MANSUR WAS UNDER SECRETARY IN FOREIGN MINISTRY WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS, ASIAN AFFAIRS AND RESEARCH DEPARTMENT. HE HAS LONG EXPERIENCE AS AMBASSADOR: WEST GERMANY (1964-65), THAILAND (1969-71), ZAIRE (1971-74), AND CYPRUS (1974-75). HE ALSO HAS EXPERIENCE IN WESTERN
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EUROPEAN AFFAIRS, HAVING RUN WESTERN EUROPEAN DEPARTMENT IN MFA FROM 1965-68.

3. MANSUR'S AMERICAN COLLEAGUES HAVE OVER THE YEARS REGARDED HIM HIGHLY. HE HAS REPUTATION AS SERIOUS STUDENT OF AFFAIRS WITHIN HIS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY AND IS CONSIDERED OPEN TO DIALOGUE AND SUGGESTIONS. FOR

REASONS WE ARE NOT SURE OF, HOWEVER, MANSUR WAS EXCLUDED FROM TOP POLICY MAKING COUNCILS DURING HIS TOUR AS U/S IN MFA, BUT THIS MAY HAVE BEEN BECAUSE OF FORMER FORMIN FAHMY'S PREDILCTION FOR KEEPING ALL POLICY MAKING IN HIS OWN SHOP. MANSUR IS IN HIS MID-50'S. HE SPEAKS FLUENT ENGLISH, FRENCH, ITALIAN AND GERMAN, AND IS COSMOPOLITAN IN OUTLOOK. HIS WIFE, NADIA, IS CHARMING, ATTRACTIVE AND PERSONABLE AND ABOUT 15 YEARS YOUNGER THAN HE. WE CONSIDER MANSUR TO BE GOOD FRIEND OF U.S.

4. I COMMEND THE MANSURS TO YOU AS EXCELLENT COLLEAGUES.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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